

REVIEW OF CROPS IN SOONERLAND

Rapid Disposition of New Wheat in Southwest Counties

BEAT CAR SHORTAGE

Bankers Are Urging Sale of Grain at Sacrifice to Close Old Accounts

Special to The World
OKLAHOMA CITY, July 31.—Advances from the several grain-producing sections of Oklahoma toward the end of July indicate that John A. Whitehurst, president of the state board of agriculture, was not far off in his guess of a 50,000,000 bushel wheat crop in the state this season. The Panhandle section reports the largest average yields, the figures ranging from 25 to 28 bushels, while the lowest averages are from 10 to 15 bushels. A general average of a little over 20 bushels would make the total of 50,000,000 bushels.

The most rapid progress in disposition of the wheat crop was made in the southwest part of the state, in what grain men know as the Fredonia district. A news item illustrates what transpired there before July 15 was contained in a telegram from El Reno, Okla., that a truck driver who had been threshing wheat for the summer reached his work for the summer, cut his machine under the shed. Grain men say that by the middle of July 30 per cent of the wheat of the district had been cut, threshed and sold. Such a record is unprecedented in the history of the state.

The southward movement of the wheat crop has been very much faster than done by railroads and teams. Dealers began to embargo shipments. Dealers say that nearly all grain from that territory was good quality and in good condition. The average is reported to have been over 20 bushels to the acre.

Wheat harvesting has been done by teams in many sections and in others the grain sprouted in the shock. In that region also the oat crop was poor.

Reports from the central-west indicate the wheat crop is in good shape and the yield satisfactory. In the central sections, particularly in the vicinity of Oklahoma City and Norman, cut-over rates did heavy duty on the crop. Reports from Norman say that probably some fields will not be cut and that wheat is growing to such an extent in shocks that it may not be worth threshing. This area is limited, however.

Complaint of Car Shortage

Car shortage has begun to get acute by the middle of the month. Grain dealers said most complaints came from along the Santa Fe north of Oklahoma City and along the Amarillo line of the Rock Island to the west. In the latter district a few elevators were forced to suspend buying because of plant being filled to storage capacity and little of the grain moved. Except in a few instances, it appears that the shortage in the Texas Panhandle has not been acute.

Elevator and warehouse concerns in Galveston doubled their forces of men early in July and thus dispatched the unloading of cars during the heaviest early-season rains they probably ever have experienced. Railroads, officials and commercial organizations cooperated together on the problems of our movement with satisfactory results in most instances. The Oklahoma corporation commission came to the aid of the growers and dealers by abolishing its rule providing for grain shipments only from certain depots and instituting a rule that enabled grain to have an equal opportunity with dealers in the disposition of its crop.

The mid-season grain movement has been extraordinary over the entire southwest. Reports from Panhandle points and from Dallas and Fort Worth state that during the first 10 days of July three to four times as much wheat was shipped during the same period in 1920. It is almost impossible by August 15 over 20 per cent of the wheat grown in Oklahoma and Texas will have been sold by growers.

This rush to market was due largely to the price to the grower and the demands of the grower's banker and probably other creditors. Realization of the fact that most wheat grown has sold as high as \$1.25 a bushel has caused in this part of the country is willing to sell for a dollar. The very word "dollar" appeals to him. Let the price fall now that he quits selling or likes a bay steer. There is little money for him at a dollar a bushel, not much but a little.

Growers have been the most persistent in their demands. Many have carried from the previous year and busses used selling regardless of price to clean up the old notes. Several Oklahoma City grain dealers on several occasions have been advised to make remittance for grain bankers instead of growers. This selective policy has had a whole-some effect on the financial situation. Some banks report having decreased loans to farmers to 70 per cent and reserves have been greatly strengthened.

Skin Across Ocean

Export demands for flour undoubtedly are on the upgrade. This is reflected for millers buying unusually large quantities of wheat during the last half of July. The Yukon Mill & Grain company shipped a solid consignment of flour at one time to Constantinople. The Great Western Milling company of Amarillo shipped one consignment of 10,000 barrels of flour to Havana. New contracts for Cuba and Mexico stimulate business. One consignment provided for the delivery of 6,000 barrels a month to one firm in Havana.

Old-wheat flour sold at a premium early in the month and by the end of the month had almost entirely disappeared. A miller here and there got a considerable supply of old wheat but the demand was so heavy that the flour lasted but a short time. The El Reno Mill & Elevator

company, which operates a baking department, made the first bread in Oklahoma from new-wheat flour and the company's chemist pronounced it excellent. Early arrivals of wheat at mills showed damage from rain, which warranted a few days in having a premium for dry wheat. It was generally predicted, however, that the quality of the wheat during the season would be normal.

Offices and other representatives of the Oklahoma Miller's association have devoted considerable time lately to the matter of freight rates. They are supporting, with other shipping interests, the efforts of the commerce committee to get a satisfactory rate adjustment from the state commerce commission. The hearing was postponed from June 14 to August 4.

S. A. Elliott, chief road inspector of the state board of agriculture, has been advised by the federal department of food and drug administration that no independent milling company of El Reno, Okla., had been held in abeyance, although government chemists at St. Louis and Chicago had found evidence on which to convict. Shortly after the alleged offense was committed and its discovery to the mill, a hearing was held at Perry, Okla., and had been adjourned until the next day. The hearing was postponed from June 14 to August 4.

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On July 21—A woman identified as Sarah Cowan, said to be the daughter of John K. Cowan, former president of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, was found dead today in her room at the Maryland hotel. Dr. Benjamin Schwartz, chief medical examiner, said death was due to alcoholism and drug poisoning.

CANDY PRICE TAKES DROP

Cut of Approximately 50 Per Cent
Made by Manufacturer

NEW YORK, July 31.—A cut of approximately 50 per cent in the production of candy and confectionery to follow was announced to-day by a chain of stores, known as the Candy Store chain, following a general agitation against the high prices of ice cream, cold drinks and confections.

Benjamin Miller, one of the company officials made public a memorandum which his sold had been sent to the National Confectioners Association. It read:

"It is time we had a down to reason in this matter. We have been making too high and too per cent profit for a long time. This kind of business if kept up would create a panic."

In the Oil Fields

North of Kellyville

The Fred Wicks oil company has a new No. 1 well located in the northwest corner of the 18-19-19, east of 18-19-19.

The No. 1 well of Hatfield and others located in the northeast corner of the northwest of 18-19-19 is 8 feet on the ground.

Failure in the Osage

The Price Oil company has a failure in 210 feet north of No. 2 well located in the center of the southeast of the northwest of 21-22-23.

The Well in Fox Pool

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Around Okmulgee

Nickelson and others have a failure in the northwest corner of the northeast of 21-22-23. Some parties No. 1 and No. 2 located in the northwest corner of the northeast of the northwest of 21-22-23 are good for 12 barrels.

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